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Office of Research and Partnerships

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Purdue University General Institutional Description

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Purdue General Institutional Description Text

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Purdue University is the state of Indiana's land-grant university and a Carnegie Foundation tier-one research institution for very high research activity. The University's main campus, situated on 2,660 acres in West Lafayette, Indiana, enrolls nearly 30,000 undergraduate students and 9,500 graduate and professional students in approximately 200 undergraduate majors, 80 master's and doctoral programs, as well as professional degree programs in pharmacy and veterinary medicine. Four regional campuses combine for a student enrollment of nearly 75,000 and a system-wide budget of more than \$2.31 billion. Purdue is ranked fourth in the nation in a 2010 *Wall Street Journal* survey of corporate recruiters for preparing students for the workforce.

Purdue's broad track record of excellence includes top ten departments in nearly every one of its 10 colleges on the West Lafayette campus and over \$390 million in research awards and over \$582 million in expenditures for support of research for fiscal year 2014. The vibrant research culture includes over 400 research laboratories across the West Lafayette campus. A progressive, 40-acre complex and \$1 billion Discovery Park enterprise for interdisciplinary research and learning at Purdue offers a compelling operational model for transforming research management and support. Flexible laboratories in eleven centers, housed in six state-of-the-art buildings encourage rapid and dynamic responses to the emerging research opportunities found at disciplinary interfaces. More than 1000 faculty members from every academic unit at Purdue engage in Discovery Park centers to address grand challenges in emerging areas of science and technology. Purdue's strong entrepreneurial culture, fostered by campus infrastructure such as the Purdue Research Foundation Foundry and the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship in Discovery Park, provides support and training that includes the largest university-affiliated business incubation complex in the country and the nation's third longest-running business plan competition.

Information Technology at Purdue (ITaP), the University's central information technology organization, supports an advanced research infrastructure across campus that includes multiple shared, TOP500-class supercomputing clusters for intensive computational needs with high-speed networks linking campus computing resources and connecting the campus to national resources. A distributed computing system taking advantage of what would otherwise be idle hardware also makes tens of thousands of processors available to any Purdue researcher along with a graphical Web front end that makes popular research applications such as BLAST, Gromacs and R easily accessible. In addition, a high-capacity central storage system that makes research data shareable securely with both on- and off-campus collaborators is available. Advanced Purdue cyberinfrastructure also includes: HUBzero, a web-based platform for research, collaboration, and education that supports real simulation and modeling access through a Web browser and a growing set of data collection, management, sharing and analysis capabilities; the Envision Center, which offers data visualization and multimedia production services, including animation, human-computer interaction and 3-D immersive virtual environment creation; and the Purdue Terrestrial Observatory, a source for GIS and earth remote-sensing analysis assistance and data gathered from NASA, NOAA, and international satellites, aircraft, and ground-reference instruments.

ITaP also creates and provides campus access to innovative learning and classroom technology such as the award-winning student performance early warning system Course Signals; Hotseat and Mixable, which leverage students' social media habits for learning; Jetpack and Convoy, multimedia textbook replacement applications; Passport, a badge-based system for certifying skills students have learned at a level of detail beyond what overall grades offer; and Pattern, which lets students track their academic and extracurricular pursuits and rate how productive they are. In addition, ITaP operates dozens of student computing labs on the West Lafayette campus with thousands of computers, as well as tens of thousands of desktop computers

in classrooms, research laboratories, and offices and numerous petabytes of storage for research, educational and personal use. Purdue maintains one of the world's largest wireless Internet networks with thousands of Wi-Fi access points. This allows faculty and students to connect to online resources in almost all indoor public spaces or classrooms, as well as residence halls, on campus.

Purdue claims the oldest chapter of the Society of Women Engineers and is the founding site of both the Women in Engineering Programs and Advocates Network as well as the National Society of Black Engineers. The award-winning Black Cultural Center at Purdue University is consistently recognized as one of the best cultural centers in the country. Purdue has the 2nd largest number of international students on any public college campus in the nation and for six consecutive years has been identified by the *Hispanic Business Journal* as one of the best institutions in the nation for Latino graduate students studying engineering.

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